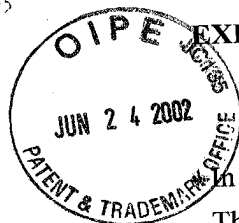


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EXPRESS MAIL NO. EL615211311US

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

Thomas M. BRENNAN

Application Serial No.: 09/715,426

Filing Date: November 16, 2000

For: **METHOD AND APPARATUS
FOR CONDUCTING AN ARRAY
OF CHEMICAL REACTIONS
ON A SUPPORT SURFACE**

Group Art Unit: 1637

Examiner: Fredman, J. D.

Attorney's Docket No.
05871.0002.CNUS05

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**RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT AND PRELIMINARY
AMENDMENT**

Director of USPTO
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the restriction requirement mailed on **May 1, 2002**. A petition for Extension of Time for one (1) month is included herewith, which extends the due date from **June 1, 2002** to **July 1, 2002**. The one-month extension fee of \$55.00 for a small entity is included herewith. It is believed that no additional fees are required. However, if any fees are required in order to maintain the pendency of the instant Application, the Examiner is expressly authorized to charge such to our Deposit Account No. 08-3038 referencing 05871.0002.CNUS05.

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENTS

In the Specification:

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 2, line 4 with the following paragraph:

This is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 09/314,456, filed May 18, 1999, which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/465,761, filed June 6, 1995 (Now U.S. Patent No. 5,985,551), which is a continuation of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 08/068,540, filed May 27, 1993 (now U.S. Patent No.

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5,474,796), which is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial
No. 07/754,614, filed September 4, 1991, abandoned.

Replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 25 with the following paragraph:

The preferred siloxane reaction product of the present invention is tridecafluoro-1,1,2,2-tetrahydrooctyl siloxane. In Figure 2A, the hatched lines are the solid support, "S1" represents a first exposed support surface site, "S1-F" is a hydrophobic fluoralkylsilane site, and "S1-OH" is a derivatized hydrophilic binding site.

In the Claims:

1. (Reiterated:) A method for conducting chemical reactions between a solution of a chemical reactant and an array of functionalized binding sites on a support surface comprising adding the solution of chemical reactant to the functionalized binding site in an amount where the solution of chemical reactant at each binding site is separate from the solution of chemical reactant at other binding sites by surface tension.

Please cancel Claims 2-17.

Please add following new Claims 18-27.

18. A solid support comprising a support surface with an array of functionalized sites wherein a solution at a functionalized site is separated from solutions at other functionalized sites by surface tension.

19. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said support surface has $10-10^4$ functionalized sites per cm^2 .

20. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said functionalized site is about 50-2000 microns in diameter.

21. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said support surface is glass.

22. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said support surface is selected from the group consisting of nylon, polyethylene, polypropylene, polystyrene and polytetrafluorethylene.

23. The solid support of claim 18 wherein the area of the support surface of the functionalized site has a higher surface tension relative to the support surface surrounding the functionalized site.

24. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said functionalized site provides attachment to a nucleic acid.

25. The solid support of claim 18 wherein said functionalized site provides attachment to a peptide.

26. The solid support of claim 18, 24 or 25 wherein said functionalized site provides a covalent attachment.

27. The solid support of claim 18, 24 or 25 wherein said functionalized site provides a non-covalent attachment.

REMARKS

At page 4, line 25, the incorrect chemical name of "tetradecafluoro-1,1,2,2-tetrahydrooctyl siloxane" is corrected to "tridecafluoro-1,1,2,2-tetrahydrooctyl siloxane". The error is an obvious clerical error because the tetrahydrooctyl moiety only has 13 (trideca-), not 14 (tetradeca-), available positions for fluoro. No new matter is added.

Applicants have added new claims 18-27. Support for these amendments can be found throughout the specification, for example on pages 4-14. No new matter is added. The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter the amendments.

Response to Restriction Requirement

During a telephone discussion with the Examiner after the receipt of the instant Restriction Requirement, it appears that the Examiner did not receive the Preliminary Amendment filed with the instant Application on November 16, 2000. For example, in the November 16, 2000 preliminary amendment, claims 2-17 were canceled, thus making the instant Restriction Requirement moot. The Examiner suggested applicants filing the same preliminary amendment again. Applicants hereby submit an identical Preliminary Amendment as filed on November 16, 2000.


CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants believe the application is in good and proper condition for allowance. Early notification of allowance is earnestly solicited.

If, in the opinion of the Examiner, a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the subject application, the Examiner is encouraged to call the undersigned at (650) 463-8109.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: **June 24, 2002**


Albert P. Hallum (Reg. No. 25,227)
Wallace Wu (Reg. No. 45,380)

HOWREY SIMON ARNOLD & WHITE
301 Ravenswood Avenue
Box No. 34
Menlo Park, CA 94025
(650) 463-8109